THE TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OF MILLIS

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1897.

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1897.

TOWN OFFICERS, 1896-7.

TOWN CLERK.

LOUIS LACROIX.

SELECTMEN.

W. P. CLARK, M. C. ADAMS, L. LACROIX.

ASSESSORS.

J. M. CRANE, E. N. CLARK, GEO. C. THRASHER.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

THOMAS HARDING, A. P. BLAKE, H. JONES.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

E. L. RICHARDSON, TERM EXPIRES 1897.
F. E. COOK, TERM EXPIRES 1898.
E. F. RICHARDSON, TERM EXPIRES 1899.

TREASURER.

†O. T. DEAN, *C. G. BRACKETT.

COLLECTOR AND CONSTABLE.

J. C. THORNE.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

LOUIS LACROIX, TERM EXPIRES 1897.
†J. M. CRANE, TERM EXPIRES 1898.
A. H. WHEELOCK, TERM EXPIRES 1899.
*H. H. THORNE.

WATER COMMISSIONERS.

THOMAS HARDING, TERM EXPIRES 1897.
†C. W. EMERSON, TERM EXPIRES 1898.
J. S. ADAMS, TERM EXPIRES 1899.
*W. W. WHITING.

†Resigned.
*Appointed.

PARK COMMISSIONERS.

L. LaCROIX, '97, J. S. FOLSOM, '98, O. T. DEAN, '99.

AUDITOR.

E. F. LOVELL.

Officers Appointed.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

M. C. ADAMS.

FENCE VIEWERS.

J. M. CRANE, P. R. CLARK, F. H. DANIELS.

FIRE ENGINEERS AND FOREST FIRE WARDS.

J. S. ADAMS, W. W. WHITING, F. SWARMAN.

SPECIAL POLICE.

J. C. THORNE, F. T. TOUHEY, W. H. THORNE.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

O. T. DEAN.

PUBLIC WEIGHERS.

J. C. THORNE, E. N. CLARK, F. SWARMAN.

SURVEYORS OF WOOD AND LUMBER.

GEORGE C. THRASHER, LEMUEL CLARK.

INSPECTOR OF CATTLE.

M. C. ADAMS.

UNDERTAKER.

E. F. RICHARDSON.

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS.

H. E. HOSMER, P. CLARK, F. SWARMAN.

THE RECORDS

OF THE

TWELFTH MUNICIPAL YEAR,

ENDING JANUARY 31, 1897.

FIRST TOWN MEETING, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1896.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean was elected and qualified as moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the town will instruct the selectmen to use the McTammany voting machine in the election of town officers for the year 1896, in accordance with the provisions of Chap. 465, Acts of 1893.

Mr. McTammany was present with his machine, and exhibited and explained its working.

On motion of A. L. Ware, voted unanimously: To instruct the selectmen to use the McTammany voting machine in the election of town officers for the year 1896, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 465, Acts of 1893.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

SECOND TOWN MEETING,

MONDAY, THE 2D DAY OF MARCH, 1896.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean was elected and qualified as Moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To choose a clerk, treasurer, tax collector, three selectmen, three assessors, three overseers of the poor, two constables, one

auditor, all for one year. One school committee for three years, one trustee of the public library for three years. One park commissioner for three years. One water commissioner for three years. Also to vote "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors be granted in this town?" All of the above to be on one ballot. Also to choose all other town officers. The polls will be open at ten and may be closed at two o'clock.

Result of the vote as declared:—

Selectmen:—

Willard P. Clark,	59
John H. Ingraham,	53
Moses C. Adams,	67
Louis LaCroix,	92

School Committee, 3 Years:—

Mary B. Clark,	40
Evan F. Richardson,	65

Water Commissioner, 3 Years:—

J. S. Adams,	86

Town Treasurer:—

Osgood T. Dean,	95

Town Clerk:—

Louis LaCroix,	89

Collector:—

J. C. Thorne,	84

Auditor:—

E. F. Lovell,	78

Constables:—

J. C. Thorne,	87
J. H. Ingraham,	63

Assessors:—

E. N. Clark,	87
J. M. Crane,	84
G. C. Thrasher,	89

Overseers of Poor:—

T. Harding,	95
A. P. Blake,	88
H. Jones,	88

Trustee of Public Library, 3 Years:—

Albert H. Wheelock,	82

Park Commissioner, 3 Years:—

O. T. Dean,	78

License:—

"Yes,"	23
"No,"	81

Adjourned to March 16, at 1 o'clock.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

ADJOURNED MEETING, MARCH 16, 1896.

Voted: That the selectmen fill by appointment all officials not required to be elected by ballot.

Report of committee of eleven accepted and placed on file.

ARTICLE 3. To hear and act on the reports of the several town officers and committees.

Voted: To accept reports of town officers and committees as printed in the annual report.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the town will accept the list of jurors as revised by the selectmen and posted as required by law.

Amended, and accepted list of jurors as follows:—

Jonathan C. Standley,	Frank E. Cook,
Charles G. Brackett,	Charles F. Hood,
George F. Holbrook,	Herbert H. Thorne,
Albert J. Babcock,	George P. Simmons,
Lemuel Clark,	Osgood T. Dean,
Stanley A. Clark,	Adin P. Blake.

ARTICLE 5. To see what disposition the town will make of the money refunded by the county on account of dog licenses.

Voted to appropriate to use of the public library.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will authorize its treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to hire money in anticipation of taxes.

Voted: That the treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, be authorized to hire money in anticipation of taxes.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will receive the legacy bequeathed the town by Mrs. Mary Adams, deceased; also to determine what disposition the town will make of the same.

Voted: To receive the legacy of Mrs. Mary Adams, and that it be made a permanent fund for the use of that part of the cemetery belonging to the town, the interest only to be applied yearly, the same to be known as "the Mrs. Mary Adams fund."

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will vote to purchase bonds for the treasurer and collector, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That the town purchase bonds of a surety company for the treasurer and collector of $5000 each, at a rate not to exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ of one per cent; the matter of obtaining the bonds be left in the hands of the selectmen.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to fix the salary of the town officers, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: To drop the article.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will grant money for the painting of Adams and Ellice schoolhouses, also for new furniture for the Ellice school, or act on any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That the article be laid over until another year.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the town will vote to extend the water service by continuing the large main on Exchange street, or act on any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That the water commissioners be instructed to extend the 8-inch main on Exchange street so far as can be with balance in their hands, after laying aside amount required for sinking fund for this year.

ARTICLE 12. To see what arrangement the town will make with the water department for the use of water for all town purposes, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That the water commissioners be instructed to furnish water for all town purposes, wherever the town officers may require, without charge to the town, as far as the pipes extend, or may be extended.

ARTICLE 13. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town expenses for the ensuing year.

Voted: To grant $12,700, appropriated as follows:—

Roads and bridges (one hundred to be used for sidewalks)	$1500 00
Incidental expenses	1100 00
Support of poor	700 00
Fire department	500 00
Debt and interest	4500 00
Interest on water bonds	1200 00
Snow bills	100 00
Public library	50 00
Memorial Day	50 00
All school purposes	3000 00

Voted not to pay transportation of scholars out of town.

Voted: That the water commissioners be instructed to draw upon the balance in their hands for the amount necessary for the sinking fund.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the town will grant a sum of money for expenses of Memorial Day.

Appropriated $50, to be expended under direction of A. P. Blake, G. K. Fisher, and G. R. Hill, all bills to be approved by the selectmen.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will grant a sum of money for care and repair of cemetery.

Dismissed.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the town will take any action with reference to the collection of the unpaid taxes assessed against the assignees of the Steel Edge Stamping and Retinning Co., and the receivers of the Millis Co.

Voted: To instruct the collector to push the collection of the taxes assessed against the assignees of the Steel Edge Stamping and Retinning Co., and the receivers of the Millis Co.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

Third Town Meeting,
Tuesday, the 31st day of March, 1896.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

George C. Thrasher elected and qualified as moderator.

Article 2. To see whether the town will vote to withdraw from the union of towns employing a school superintendent, or act in any matter respecting the same.

Voted: That it is the sentiment of this meeting that the school committee use their influence to procure a change in the person of a superintendent of schools in the union.

Article 3. To see if the town will vote to grant a sum of money for salary of superintendent of schools.

Voted: To appropriate $75 for salary of superintendent of schools.

Article 4. To see if the town will reconsider the vote passed at the adjourned town meeting, Monday, March 16, 1896, relating to the transportation of scholars out of town, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: To reconsider the vote passed March 16, 1896, whereby the town voted not to pay transportation out of town.

On motion to pay transportation, voted "Yes" 22, "No" 25.

Article 5. To see if the town will reconsider the vote passed March 16, 1896, relating to appropriation for debt and interest, or act in any manner relating thereto.

Voted: To reconsider the vote passed March 16, 1896, relating to appropriation for debt and interest.

Voted: To appropriate $3000 for debt and interest.

Article 6. To see what action the town will take relative to a custodian of the Mary Adams fund.

Voted: That the selectmen be custodians of the Mary Adams fund, and invest the same.

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to reimburse the collector for expense of collection on assignees of Steel Edge Stamping and Retinning Co., and receivers of the Millis Co., or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That the town reimburse the collector in actual expenses in collecting from the assignees of the Steel Edge Stamping and Retinning Co., and the receivers of the Millis Co.

Voted: That the collector have the advice of the selectmen in the matter of collection.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will adopt methods of accounting suggested by the American Surety Company, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted: That the treasurer keep all funds in some bank approved by the selectmen, and that all checks of $200 or over shall be countersigned by some officer of the town in position to be cognizant of cause of the check being drawn.

Voted: That the chairman of the selectmen be authorized to countersign all checks of $200 and over.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

FOURTH TOWN MEETING,
THURSDAY, THE 30TH DAY OF APRIL, 1896.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean was elected and qualified as moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the town will vote to pay for the transportation to the high school at Medway, and grant a sum of money to do the same.

On motion to pay transportation, voted "Yes" 21, "No" 22.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the town will vote to pay no salary to any town officer except salaries prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth, or to take any action relating thereto.

Voted: To dismiss the article.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the town will vote to reconsider the vote passed at the annual meeting March 2, adjourned to March 16, authorizing the laying of pipe on Exchange street.

Voted: To reconsider.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to authorize the water commissioners to use money in their hands for repair of spring and pumping station, and placing of meters, or act on any matter relating to the same,

Voted: That the water commissioners be authorized to use surplus funds in their hands, where in their best judgment it is needed.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will vote to grant an additional sum of money for incidental expenses.

Voted: That an additional sum of $200 be appropriated for incidental expenses.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will grant a sum of money for care of cemetery.

Voted: To appropriate $30 for care of the cemetery.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

FIFTH TOWN MEETING,
SATURDAY, THE 20TH DAY OF JUNE, 1896.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

George C. Thrasher was elected as moderator, and qualified before the town clerk.

ARTICLE 2. To take such action as may be necessary to provide a high school within the borders of said town of Millis, or to defray the expenses of the students qualified to attend such a school, either in Medway or any other high school the town may designate, or to take action relating thereto.

Voted: That the whole matter of providing a high school or transportation, etc., be left in the hands of the school committee; the committee not to exceed the money already granted for schools for the current year.

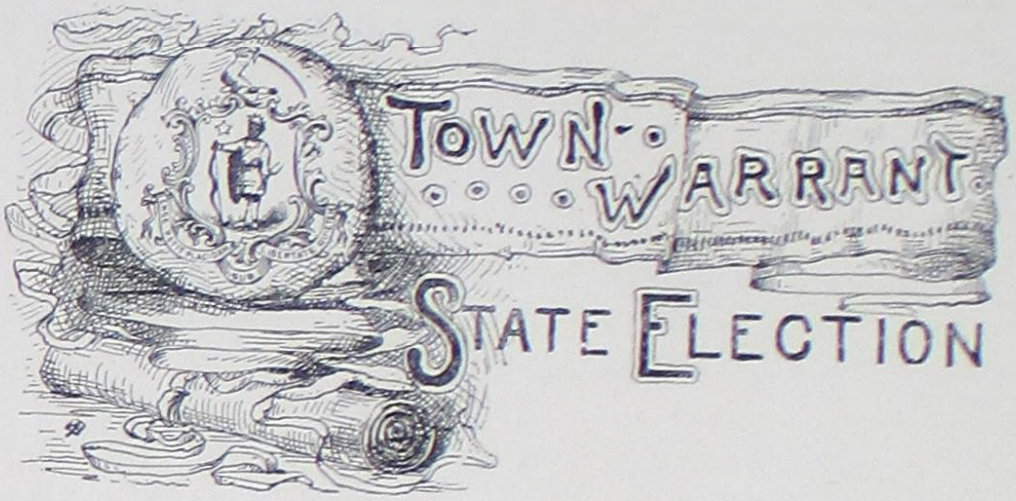
ARTICLE 3. To see if the town will instruct its selectmen to take such action as will make Main street from the Medfield line a state highway.

Voted: That the matter be left in the hands of the selectmen, to do as in their best judgment is for the interest of the town.

Voted (informal): That the town will support the selectmen in any expense in the matter of state highways.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER THIRD, 1896.

Then and there to bring in their votes for the following national, state and county officers:—

Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, Member of Congress of the United States for the Eleventh Congressional District, Governor of the Commonwealth, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Treasurer and Receiver-General, Auditor, Attorney-General, Councillor for Second Councillor District, Senator for Second Norfolk Senatorial District, Representative in the General Court for the Ninth Norfolk District, Clerk of the Courts for County of Norfolk, One County Commissioner for three years, One Special Commissioner "to fill vacancy." Also to vote "Yes" or "No" on two Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of this Commonwealth:—

First Article of Amendment: Shall the proposed Amendment to the Constitution establishing biennial elections of State officers be approved and ratified?

Second Article of Amendment: Shall the proposed Amendment to the Constitution establishing biennial elections of members of the General Court be approved and ratified?

Result of the vote as declared:—

President and Vice-President:—

Bryan and Sewall, Democratic,	20
Bryan and Sewall, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper,	2

Bryan and Watson, People's Party,	1
Levering and Johnson, Prohibition,	1
McKinley and Hobart, Republican,	107
Palmer and Buckner, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	3
Blanks,	12

Governor :—

Allen Coffin of Nantucket, Prohibition,	1
Frederick O. Prince of Boston, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	3
George Fred Williams of Dedham, Democratic,	17
George Fred Williams of Dedham, People's Party,	4
George Fred Williams of Dedham, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper,	2
Roger Wolcott of Boston, Republican,	101
Blanks,	17

Lieutenant-Governor :—

Christopher T. Callahan of Holyoke, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper, Democratic,	14
W. Murray Crane of Dalton, Republican,	96
Archibald Dakin of Brockton, People's Party,	2
James E. McConnell of Fitchburg, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	5
William W. Nash of Williamsburg, Prohibition,	1
Blanks,	28

Secretary :—

Asa F. Hall of Hudson, People's Party,	2
Waldo Lincoln of Worcester, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	5
William M. Olin of Boston, Republican,	96
Joseph H. Potts of Lynn, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper, Democratic,	13
Willard O. Wylie of Beverly, Prohibition,	1
Blanks,	29

Treasurer :—

Edward P. Shaw of Newburyport, Republican,	90
Horace P. Tobey of Wareham, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	13
Thomas A. Watson of Braintree, People's Party, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper, Democratic,	11
Blanks,	32

Auditor :—

Maurice P. Cavanaugh of Springfield, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper,	5
Maurice J. Fitzgerald of Boston, Democratic,	8

John W. Kimball of Fitchburg, Republican,	91
William P. Proctor of Marblehead, People's Party,	1
Charles C. Spellman of Springfield, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	9
Blanks,	32

Attorney-General.—

Wolcott Hamlin of Amherst, Prohibition,	1
Henry F. Hurlburt of Lynn, Democratic National Nom. Paper,	9
Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford, Republican,	88
William H. Morse of Chelsea, People's Party,	2
John B. O'Donnell of Northampton, Democratic Bryan Nom. Paper, Democratic,	14
Blanks,	32

Councillor, Second District:—

John J. Cantwell of Brookline, Democratic,	25
Benj. S. Lovell of Weymouth, Republican,	92
Blanks,	29

Senator, Second Norfolk District:—

Dennis H. Fitzpatrick of Stoughton, Democratic,	20
Clarke P. Harding of Medway, Republican,	96
Blanks,	30

Representative in General Court, Ninth Norfolk District:—

Albert Clarke of Wellesley, Republican,	94
Blanks,	52

Clerk of Courts, Norfolk:—

Louis A. Cook of Weymouth, Republican,	30
David W. Murray of Hyde Park, Democratic,	11
Erastus Worthington of Dedham, Non-partisan,	85
Blanks,	20

County Commissioner, Norfolk:—

Charles C. Sanderson of Dedham, Democratic,	26
Edwin D. Wadsworth of Milton, Republican,	89
Blanks,	31

Special Commissioner, Norfolk:—

George H. Mann of Sharon, Republican,	92
Blanks,	54

Representative in Congress, Eleventh District:—

William H. Baker of Newton, Democratic,	23
Charles F. Sprague of Brookline, Republican,	97
Blanks,	26

First Article of Amendment :—

Shall the proposed amendment to the constitution establishing biennial elections of state officers be approved and ratified?

Yes,	39
No,	54

Second Article of Amendment:—

Shall the proposed amendment to the constitution establishing biennial elections of members of the general court be approved and ratified?

Yes,	30
No,	53

Result of the vote cast Nov.. 13, 1896, in Medfield, Needham, Dover, Wellesley, and Millis, for one representative to the General Court for the Ninth Norfolk Representative district:—

Total number of votes in the district,	1249
Total number of blanks in the district,	548

	Albert Clarke.	Scattering.	Blanks.
Medfield,	228	1	86
Needham,	439	7	214
Dover,	74		35
Wellesley,	401	5	161
Millis,	94		52
	1236	13	548

Louis LaCroix,
Town Clerk.

Sixth Town Meeting,
Thursday, November 19, 1896.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Augustus L. Ware was elected and qualified as moderator.

Article 2. To see if the town will vote to fund a portion of its indebtedness, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted unanimously: That the treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, be authorized to borrow the sum of ten thou-

sand dollars and issue the notes of the town therefor; dated Nov. 1, 1896, and payable one thousand dollars each on the first day of November in the years 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, and 1909; bearing interest not to exceed the rate of four per cent per annum; interest payable semi-annually on the first day of May and November in each year.

Voted: That the treasurer solicit bids for the lowest rate of interest, the same being subject to the approval of the selectmen.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

SEVENTH TOWN MEETING,
MONDAY, NOV. 30, 1896.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Osgood T. Dean elected and qualified as moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To see whether the town will vote to rescind all the votes passed November 19, 1896, under Article 2 of the warrant calling said meeting.

Voted: To rescind all votes passed Nov. 19, 1896, under Arcle 2 of the warrant calling said meeting.

ARTICLE 3. To see whether the town will vote to fund a portion of its indebtedness and authorize the treasurer to issue the notes of the town therefor, or act in any matter relating to the same.

Voted unanimously: That the town treasurer be authorized, when so directed by the selectmen, to borrow the sum of ten thousand dollars ($10,000) for the purpose of paying the note of the town now held by the American Loan and Trust Company of Boston, dated Nov. 1, 1895, giving therefor the note or notes of the town signed by the treasurer and countersigned by a majority at least of the selectmen, bearing inter-

est at a rate not exceeding four percentum per annum, payable semi-annually. Such notes shall be payable: One thousand dollars Nov. 1, 1900; fifteen hundred dollars Nov. 1, 1901; fifteen hundred dollars Nov. 1, 1902; two thousand dollars Nov. 1, 1903; two thousand dollars Nov. 1, 1904; two thousand dollars Nov. 1, 1905.

ARTICLE 4. To see whether the town will vote to authorize the treasurer to pay a note held by the American Loan and Trust Co. of Boston against the town for ten thousand dollars borrowed in anticipation of taxes of 1895.

Voted: To dismiss the article.

Adjourned.

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Public Statutes of Massachusetts, chapter 32, section 2, reads as follows:—

Parents shall give notice to the clerk of their city or town of the births and deaths of their children; every householder shall give like notice of every birth or death happening in his house; the eldest person next of kin shall give such notice of the death of his kindred.

Whoever neglects to give such notice for the space of six months after a birth or death shall forfeit a sum not exceeding five dollars.

The above is an extract from chapter 32 of the Public Statutes which is generally neglected. The town clerk has a supply of blanks for making these returns.

Following is a list of births, marriages and deaths collected by the town clerk. If any are omitted but part of the blame will be borne by him.

Respectfully,

LOUIS LACROIX,
Town Clerk.

BIRTHS RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1897.

DATE.	NAME.	PARENTS.
1896.		
Jan. 11	Marion Irving	Edward and Annie (Lebert).
Feb. 17	Margaret Rose Whitlock	Daniel T. and Mary (McGinnis).
Mar. 15	Gordon Stewart,	Edward J. and Helena M. (Felt).
15	Mortimer S. Fisher	Geo. K. and Ethel (Stevens).
24	James Keefe	Thomas and Maggie (Mongavin).
26	Esther Dorothy Daniels	Jeremiah B. and Anna M. (Richardson).
Apr. 10	Henry Francis Touhey	Frank T. and Mary J. (O'Riley).
11	Carleton Daniels	William P. and Mary F. (Young).
May 29	John Crowley O'Riley	Thomas D. and Mary A. (Crowley).
Aug. 6	Leda K. Seidenberg	Jacob and Helena T. (Lankman).
7	Grace Wallace	William and Rose (McCreary).
22	George Hesbit Clark	Stanley A. and Jennie M. (Couthill).
Sept. 4	Elvira Katherine Sawyer	Lauren E. and Lucy C. (Bullard).
Oct. 7	Ida Anna Augusta Simmons	Geo. P. and Anna M. (Skarp).
Nov. 6	Helen Bridget Cassidy	Terrence H. and Mary E. (Ford).
	Helena Cassidy	
12	George Madden	John and Anne (Smith).
Dec. 22	Henry Merrill Pollard	Henry and Elizabeth (Dower).
1897.		
Jan. 3	Barney Nimian	Louis and Fanny (Laison).
7	Fred Alexander Mollines	Alexander and Sybil (Duncan).
28	Russell Carleton Hill	George R. and Susie C. (Greene).

MARRIAGES RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1897.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	BY WHOM AND WHERE MARRIED.
1896.			
Mar. 14	Albert Startzar	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Louisa Krantz	Millis	Millis.
Apr. 19	Chas. F. Hamlin	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Mildred Sargent	Millis	Millis.
May 21	Richard D. McGrath	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Annie Rafter	Millis	Millis.
24	William F. Collins	Worcester	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Cora I. Forbush	Boston	Millis.
June 24	Herman Stusse	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Ida M. Finlay	Millis	Millis.
25	Geo. P. Simmons	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Anna M. Skarp	Millis	Millis.
July 9	Marcellus A. Ware	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Mary J. Clark Plummer	Millis	Millis.
Oct. 6	Fred B. Richardson	Brookline	Rev. E. O. Jameson,
	Eloise Holland	Millis	Millis.
25	Joseph F. Obst	Millis	Rev. T. B. Lowney,
	Alice M. Tebo	Millis	Medway.
Dec. 23	Clarence E. Simpson	Millis	Rev. W. E. Dudley,
	Katherine B. Bacon	Dover	So. Natick
24	Geo. A. McKay	Millis	Rev. A. H. Wheelock,
	Lula R. Hosley	Millis	Millis.

DEATHS RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1897.

DATE.	NAMES.	AGE.			PLACE OF BURIAL.
		Y.	M.	D.	
1896.					
Feb. 6	Elbridge Clark	83	6	9	Millis.
11	Richard Shanahan	75			Foxboro.
24	James H. Haines	72	11	9	Millis.
Mar. 28	Sarah Shotz		10	16	Dedham.
Apr. 30	Henry S. Rice	72	5	12	Maine.
May 4	Charles B. Russ	72	4	8	Forest Hills.
11	Emily T. Bullard	74	8	7	Medfield.
July 8	James N. Hill	83	8	13	Sherborn.
19	Henry M. Daniels	64	1	1	Millis.
Aug. 8	Keziah Harding	91	1	1	Millis.
22	Grace Wallace			15	Holliston.
Sept. 12	Gardner Penniman	52	11	23	Millis.
Oct. 18	Jerusha P. Whitney	74	5	13	West Medway.
19	Ruth C. Harding	81			Millis.
Nov. 6	Helena Cassidy			1	Holliston.
Dec. 6	Leda K. Seidenberg		4		Millis.
17	John D. Hutchinson	60	7	20	Millis.

INTERMENTS IN MILLIS, DEATH OCCURRING IN OTHER PLACES.

DATE.	NAMES.	AGE.			PLACE OF DEATH.
		Y.	M.	D.	
1896.					
Mar. 25	Francis D. Richardson	75			New York.
Aug. 29	Leander D. Hatfield	39			Mass. Gen. Hospital.
30	Charlotte H. Pollock	31	11	15	Mass. Gen. Hospital.

I HEREWITH submit my report of the receipts and expenditures of the town for the year ending January 31, 1897.

CHARLES G. BRACKETT, Treasurer,

In account with the TOWN OF MILLIS, MASS.

DR.

Balance	$ 7,671 52
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, loan	10,000 00
Treasurer of Commonwealth, corporation tax	137 76
" " "	1 49
" " National Bank tax	261 15
" " State aid	320 00
" " Massachusetts school fund	308 38
Taxes, George C. Thrasher, collector	1,804 23
Taxes, J. C. Thorne, collector	11,871 53
Poor department, George Myers	3 00
" Town of Kingston,	40 81
" City of Springfield	13 71
" Account of Ruth Harding	57 15
Court fines, R. G. Fairbanks	203 00
" A. B. Endicott	50 00
Interest on deposit	73 65
Bridge plank, highway department	5 00
Pedlar's license	3 00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, school appropriation	187 50
Amount carried forward,	$33,012 88

Amount brought forward,	$33,012 88
Insurance on school furniture	75 00
" schoolhouse	1,000 00
County treasurer, dog tax	125 47
School committee, sale of book, etc.	18 05
Auctioneer's license	2 00
" "	2 00
Total	$34,235 40

Cr.

N. F. Goldsmith, note and interest	$ 1,180 00
Treasurer of the Commonwealth, note and interest	1,193 75
Holliston Savings bank, note and interest	1,041 66
American Loan & Trust Co., note and interest	10,634 31
Interest on water bonds	1,200 00
Sidewalks	59 13
Court expenses	230 83
County tax	610 23
State tax	595 00
School committee's orders	3,687 52
Selectmen's orders	2,987 31
Overseers of poor, orders	1,029 70
Fire engineers' orders	361 35
Public library trustees' orders	175 47
Memorial Day, paid to committee	47 00
Cemetery commissioners' orders	21 11
Military aid	80 00
Millis Savings bank deposit	1,078 13
Balance, American Loan & Trust Co.	8,022 90
Total	$34,235 40

Liabilities.

Water bonds due Dec. 1925, at 4 per cent interest	$30,000 00
Park loan note due Nov. 7, 1897, at 3⅞ per cent interest	1,000 00
" " " 1898, " "	1,000 00
" " " 1899, " "	1,000 00
" " " 1900, " "	1,000 00
N. F. Goldsmith note due Aug. 8, 1897, at 6 per cent interest	1,000 00
N. F. Goldsmith note due Aug. 8, 1898, at 6 per cent interest	1,000 00

Loan from Treasurer of Commonwealth, due Nov. 1, 1900, to Nov. 1, 1906, at 4 per cent interest $10,000 00

CHARLES G. BRACKETT,
Treasurer.

I have examined the books of the treasurer, found accounts correctly cast, vouchers for all amounts paid by him; and the amount on deposit with the American Loan and Trust Company is equal to the amount called for by the treasurer's report.

EDMUND F. LOVELL,
Auditor.

SELECTMENS REPORT

THE selectmen organized with W. P. Clark chairman, L. LaCroix clerk, M. C. Adams superintendent of streets.

The bridges received our first and almost continued attention. With the Medfield selectmen we decided to re-plank the turnpike bridge with hard pine; when the old bridge was stripped it was found that but few of the stringers and in fact little but piles and caps were fit to use again, so that the bridge is practically new. It was also decided to raise the end abutments, that on the Medfield side about two feet, on the Millis side some over one foot, making the surface of the bridge nearly level. Our portion of the cost of the bridge was $271.34, which, with the cost of raising the abutment and grading, makes the cost $358.29.

The Baltimore bridge had to have the stone pier in the middle of the river re-laid, a part being carried away by the ice.

The Pleasant street bridge in Rockville, near the mill, had to be re-planked, also three other smaller bridges, making a total expense on bridges and one culvert $559.77.

The thaw and freshet just before the annual meeting caused a damage costing $45.78 to repair. A trifle over $800 has

been spent on highways, and $59.13 on sidewalks, a detailed statement of which follows.

Mr. C. W. Emerson resigned from the board of water commissioners, and after legal notice, April 4 the remaining water commissioners and the selectmen elected Wesley W. Whiting to serve the remainder of the year.

Osgood T. Dean resigned as town treasurer, and we appointed April 18 Charles G. Brackett as treasurer.

John M. Crane resigned as trustee of the public library. The remaining trustees and the selectmen October 3 elected Herbert H. Thorne for the balance of the year.

In the matter of state highways, we have felt that in the best interests of the town we would not make any decided move, as the expense will probably be above $150 for plans necessary to accompany the petition, and there are now on file over three hundred petitions.

Expenditures under Direction of the Selectmen.

Highways.

Total appropriation for highways		$1,500 00
REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS BEFORE ANNUAL MEETING.		
E. F. Richardson	$9 25	
J. P. Spencer, 2 bills	4 69	
G. N. Lavender	2 68	
C. LaCroix	5 50	
H. E. Hosmer, 2 bills	6 47	
G. R. Hill	62	
F. E. Cook	4 47	
G. S. Hosley, gravel	1 10	
P. R. Clark	5 00	
I. Cousins	3 00	
H. Crusar	3 00	
		$45 78
J. H. Shannon, repairing scraper, etc.	$5 91	
F. O. Phillips, repairing whiffletree	75	
		6 66
Amount carried forward,		$52 44

Amount brought forward,		$ 52 44

NORTH DISTRICT HIGHWAYS (F. E. COOK, FOREMAN).

L. Clark, labor and teams	$ 43 66	
E. N. Clark, labor and teams	45 91	
F. E. Cook, labor and teams	44 11	
D. Dinneen, labor and teams	20 25	
D. Dinneen, jr., labor	2 00	
John Dinneen, labor	13 50	
E. E. Burnett, labor	6 00	
T. J. O'Riley, labor	5 50	
Thomas Keefe, 3½ days labor	5 25	
I. R. Clark, 2⅔ days labor	4 00	
J. Spellman, labor	7 50	
F. E. Cook, gravel	1 10	
E. LaCroix, drain pipe	7 50	
L. LaCroix	5 00	
J. L. Snow	5 00	
		216 28

CENTRE DISTRICT HIGHWAYS.

P. R. Clark, labor, man and team, 3 bills	$ 39 80	
P. R. Clark, gravel	3 35	
J. C. & H. H. Thorne, labor and team	142 86	
J. C. Thorne, labor and team	33 10	
Stanley A. Clark, labor and team	11 56	
E. F. Richardson, labor and team	7 56	
G. S. Hosley, labor and team	11 56	
George C. Thrasher, labor and team	6 87	
E. E. Burnett, labor	27 75	
O. T. Dean, labor	26 80	
Thomas Keefe, labor	17 10	
A. Obst, labor	7 80	
J. Selmer, labor	1 50	
T. Molloy, labor	3 00	
J. P. Spencer, labor	4 50	
R. McGrath, labor	4 33	
George W. Miller, labor	4 33	
W. H. Andrews, labor	4 33	
L. McDonough, labor	3 42	
T. McMahan, labor	2 58	
G. S. Hosley, gravel	7 65	
Amounts carried forward,	$371 75	$268 72

Amounts brought forward,	$371 75	$268 72
E. M. Bent, drain pipe	6 00	
M. C. Adams, labor	5 35	
		383 10

SOUTH DISTRICT HIGHWAYS.

F. H. Daniels, labor and team	$30 00	
George C. Tingley, labor and team	32 00	
E. L. Richardson, labor and team	54 71	
D. McCarty, labor	9 25	
D. McCarty & Son, labor	12 00	
P. Costello, labor	6 00	
E. Ryan, labor	19 49	
P. Ryan, labor	6 00	
E. W. Chamberlain, labor	3 25	
J. F. Clark, labor	9 83	
Logan, labor	95	
J. D. Hutchinson, labor	2 50	
Mrs. E. H. Ferrer, gravel	6 70	
George C. Tingley, gravel	5 95	
W. P. Clark	1 75	
E. T. Rogers	55	
		200 93

BRIDGES.

Main street river bridge :—		
Town of Medfield, ½ cost	$271 34	
E. E. Burnett, labor	19 20	
C. F. Hood, labor	17 10	
T. G. Welch, labor	2 00	
George C. Thrasher, labor and team	20 10	
Stanley A. Clark, labor and team	4 00	
M. C. Adams, labor and team	24 55	
		358 29
Baltimore bridge :—		
J. Wiley and man	$18 00	
W. O'Neil	10 00	
E. Ryan	5 50	
W. P. Clark	8 00	
A. Sherman, use of derrick	3 00	
E. J. Keith, spikes	1 05	
		45 55
Amount carried forward,		$1,256 59

Amount brought forward,		$1,256 59
Pleasant street river bridge :—		
George McQuestien & Co., lumber	$77 03	
New England railroad, freight	9 60	
E. J. Keith, spikes	80	
H. E. Hosmer, labor	3 00	
E. L. Richardson, labor	8 97	
		99 40
Collins mill bridge :—		
W. S. Mitchell, lumber	$5 25	
L. LaCroix, labor and team	1 25	
		6 50
Causeway street and Ridge street bridges :—		
L. Clark, lumber, labor and team	$10 63	
J. H. Leland, lumber	8 74	
T. H. Cassidy, labor	2 50	
L. LaCroix, labor	1 00	
J. S. Folsom, nails	16	
		23 03
Black swamp culvert :—		
E. LaCroix, labor and pipe		18 00
SIDEWALKS.		
O. T. Dean	$ 4 00	
T. McMahon	75	
J. C. Thorne	8 25	
R. McGrath	5 25	
J. C. Thorne, teams, etc.	40 88	
		59 13
Total		$1471 65
SNOW BILLS.		
D. Murphy, jr.,	$ 1 20	
A. Shotz	1 20	
E. L. Richardson	4 10	
W. O'Neil	1 17	
A. W. Blair	83	
E. Ryan	83	
P. Ryan	83	
J. C. & H. H. Thorne	16 80	
O. T. Dean	1 00	
W. P. Frink	1 00	
Amount carried forward.	$ 28 96	

Amount brought forward.		
J. C. Thorne	$28 96	
H. Crusar	3 40	
J. P. Spencer	2 25	
J. C. Brown	2 25	
H. E. Hosmer	60	
F. E. Cassidy	65	
L. LaCroix	2 10	
C. LaCroix	55	
J. Bullard	45	
Fred Cassidy	45	
M. C. Adams	90	
W. P. Clark	4 25	
E. L. Richardson, 1897	3 05	
J. C. Thorne, "	3 12	
E. F. Richardson, "	9 80	
Daniel Murphy, "	4 00	
C. F. Hood, "	3 00	
L. McDonough, "	3 00	
T. Keefe, "	1 25	
P. R. Clark, "	1 25	
J. P. Spencer, "	7 75	
H. Crusar, "	3 75	
I. Cousins, "	3 75	
E. N. Clark, "	2 66	
J. C. Thorne, " (sidewalk)	2 97	
George C. Thrasher, 1893	11 70	
	12 83	
		$120 69

STATE AID.

E. M. Bullen	$72 00	
S. D. Bullen	48 00	
S. L. Fisher	48 00	
L. A. Foster	48 00	
G. E. Mason	48 00	
G. Y. Sylvester	12 00	
E. A. Hill	12 00	
G. Penniman	48 00	
		$336 00

MILITARY AID.

Patrick Higgins	$56 00	
Town of Medway, account J. F. Stratton	24 00	
		$80 00

Memorial Day.

Appropriated		$50 00
Paid C. F. Spencer	$10 50	
A. P. Blake and others	36 50	
		$47 00

Incidentals.

Appropriated, annual meeting $1100; April 30, $200; total		$1,300 00
G. M. Billings, printing reports	$130 90	
C. G. Brackett, stationery and printing	28 55	
S. J. Spear, printing	2 00	
M. J. Kiley, printing	3 30	
Little, Brown & Co., 1 copy Mass. Town Officer	3 50	
C. P. Hutchinson, M. D., quarantine expenses	15 00	
J. S. Folsom, groceries by order of board of health to A. Weiner $1.56. A. Shotz $4.15	5 71	
J. S. Folsom, supplies to lockup	75	
W. W. Whiting, repairs at lockup	14 26	
G. G. Hoff, heating office and library	15 00	
S. H. Frink, care of town office	10 75	
Hazelton & Fisher, kerosene	60	
Williams & Copeland, settlement of old bill	25 00	
H. T. Richardson, legal services	47 00	
American Surety Co., bonds and expense	80 00	
New England Railroad Co., ⅓ coal	56 21	
M. C. Adams, inspector of cattle, 1895	30 00	
E. F. Lovell, auditor, 1895	25 00	
W. W. Whiting, repairs at town office	6 62	
Berlin Iron Bridge Co., guideboards	2 80	
O. T. Dean, treasurer and expenses	22 01	
E. LaCroix, labor on watering troughs	11 97	
C. F. Hood, police	5 00	
W. H. Thorne, police	15 00	
J. C. Thorne, constable and police	50 00	
Grange Hall Association, rent of hall	50 00	
O. T. Dean, moderator	5 00	
E. F. Lovell, teller	1 50	
Charles G. Brackett, treasurer	79 37	
" " postage and expenses	7 82	
" " ballot clerk	2 00	
Amount carried forward.	$752 62	

Amount brought forward,	$752 62	
J. M. Crane, assessor	67 25	
E. N. Clark, assessor	45 00	
George C. Thrasher, assessor	64 99	
W. P. Clark, selectman and expense	53 00	
M. C. Adams, selectman	50 00	
Louis LaCroix, selectman	50 00	
" town clerk	25 00	
" recording births, marriages and deaths	14 95	
Louis LaCroix, fees to physicians and undertakers	5 75	
" express, postage, and office expenses	7 95	
George C. Thrasher, stationery, postage, etc., 3 years	21 40	
J. C. Thorne, collector's book	1 40	
J. C. Thorne, collecting taxes, 1896	126 18	
		$1,285 49

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Clark,
Moses C. Adams,
Louis La Croix,
Selectmen of Millis.

LIST OF JURORS

To be Presented to the Town for Acceptance,
March 1, 1897.

Stanley A. Clark, farmer,
Asahel F. Lovell, farmer,
George P. Simmons, mail carrier,
George F. Holbrook, mechanic,
Fred Swarman, retired grocer,
Wesley W. Whiting, carpenter,
Albert J. Babcock, painter,
John F. Clark, baker,
Charles F. Hood, mechanic,
Curtis Holland, electrician,
George R. Hill, mason,
William D. Rowell, barber,
Marcellus A. Ware, organ pipe m'f'r.

THE following report is respectfully presented for the year ending Jan. 31, 1897.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by the town	$700 00	
Town of Kingston	40 80	
City of Springfield	13 71	
George Mayers	3 00	
Ruth C. Harding	57 15	
		$814 66
There is due from Town of Kingston	$71 71	
Town of Milford	3 00	
City of Malden	32 76	
" Newton	104 00	
State	6 55	
		$218 02

EXPENDITURES.

The board has approved the following bills:—

J. W. HUDSON (Springfield).

Paid J. S. Folsom, groceries	$6 06	
J. C. Thorne, ¼ ton of coal	1 65	
Fare to Springfield	6 00	
		$ 13 71

SUSAN HALL (Newton).

Paid George Morley, board		96 00

ELIZA DREW (Kingston).

Paid Samuel H. Frink, board	$94 67	
Medicine and clothing	6 67	
Fare to Kingston	2 00	
		101 34

LYDIA A. CHADBOURNE (Malden).

Paid J. C. Thorne, 2 tons coal	13 00	
G. C. Thrasher, ½ cord kindling	3 00	
J. S. Folsom, groceries	16 76	
		32 76

EDWARD MITCHEL (Milford).

Paid Hazelton & Fisher, groceries		3 00

MRS. PATRICK MCGOURTY (State).

Paid J. S. Folsom, groceries	$3 05	
Dr. H. P. Hooper, attendance and medicine	3 50	
		6 55
		$253 36

ABIGAIL PARTRIDGE.

Paid John H. Hutchins, board	$179 00	
Expense of moving and clothing	3 18	
		182 18

RUTH C. HARDING.

Paid Mrs. Elvira Bullard, board	$143 07	
C. F. Hamlin, M. D., medical attendance	10 50	
E. F. Richardson, burial expenses	26 00	
		179 57
Amount carried forward,		$615 11

Amount brought forward,		$615 11
MARY A. SHUMWAY.		
Paid Mrs. Henry Crusar, board	$156 79	
Mrs. Henry Crusar, clothing	3 85	
		160 64
MRS. C. C. DARLING.		
Paid Dr. Hamlin, medical and surgical services		26 00
MRS. PORTER BOYDEN.		
Paid George C. Thrasher, wood		26 50
T. G. WELCH.		
Paid C. L. Hazelton, groceries	$10 00	
J. S. Folsom, groceries	5 00	
J. C. Thorne, 2 tons coal	13 00	
J. C. Tingley, ½ cord wood, and milk	4 26	
		32 26
LEANDER HATFIELD.		
Paid E. F. Richardson, burial expenses		26 51
TRAMP ACCOUNT.		
Paid Thomas Harding, care 683 tramps	$ 68 30	
G. C. Thrasher, ½ cord kindling wood	3 00	
J. C. Thorne, 1 ton coal	6 50	
E. LaCroix, repairing water pipe	1 00	
		78 80
INCIDENTALS.		
Paid Thomas Harding, 2 trips to West Brookfield		9 28
		$975 10

THOMAS HARDING,
HORATIO JONES,
ADIN P. BLAKE,
Overseers of the Poor.

Engineers' Report of Fire Department

For the Year Ending Jan. 31, 1897.

THE board of engineers and forest fire wards of the Millis fire department organized May 2, 1896, with J. S. Adams chief, F. Swarman assistant, and W. W. Whiting clerk.

We would report the fire apparatus in good condition, and would recommend an appropriation of $500 for general expenses for ensuing year.

Fires During Year.

March 21, '96.—House of William D. Rowell.
March 31.—Grass on land of C. C. Darling.
April 11.—Woodland of George Morley.
April 15.—Woodland of Louis Demary.
May 1.—Stable on estate of Mrs. L. Millis.
July 4.—Sproutland on Sherman Park.
Oct. 22.—House of William Wallace.
Nov. 15.—House of John Clark.
Dec. 14.—Daniels schoolhouse.
Dec. 22.—Barn of E. J. H. Darrell.
Dec. 26.—House of Enoch Waite.
Dec. 27.—Baltimore paper mill.

LIST OF BILLS APPROVED BY ENGINEERS.

W. H. Thorne, drawing hook and ladder truck	$ 4 00
G. C. Thrasher, fuel	12 00
J. H. Shannon, labor	1 20
Thomas Burgoyne, labor	1 25
A. J. Babcock, labor	60
E. F. Lovell, labor	1 45
William Barker, labor	1 00
T. H. Cassidy, labor	2 25
Mrs. Rhoda Waite, rent	28 00
W. P. Frink, steward	8 00
Harry Goss, labor	1 25
F. Swarman, salary one year to May 1, '96	10 00
G. R. Hill, salary to May 1, '96	6 00
J. S. Adams, salary	6 00
Niagara Engine Co., salaries	56 00
Rockville Engine Co., salaries	20 00
Thomas Lavender, use of team	75
J. C. Thorne, drawing engine	12 00
S. H. Frink, labor	2 00
Lauren Sawyer, steward	10 00
Boston Woven Hose Co., rubber coats	10 50
J. S. Adams, express	25
O. T. Dean, insurance	16 50
J. S. Adams, salary to Nov. 1, 1896	6 00
W. W. Whiting, salary to Nov. 1, 1896	6 00
Murphy Bros., labor	1 50
Niagara Engine Co., salaries	45 00
William P. Frink, salary as steward	8 00
J. S. Folsom, supplies	4 50
Mrs. Rhoda Waite, rent	16 33
J. Obst, labor	75
E. Tebo, labor	75
J. Frink, labor	75
G. N. Lavender, labor	1 25
Sartwell, Heinold & Humphrey, straps	2 76
J. S. Folsom, supplies	3 80
C. Elwell, labor	50
E. Stafford, labor	1 25
Marston's Express Co., supplies	1 48
Daniel Murphy, labor	50
Amount carried forward.	$312 12

Amount brought forward,	$312 12
McDonough Bros., labor	1 00
J. C. Thorne, coal	6 50
H. H. Easterbrook, copy of fire laws	1 00
G. C. Thrasher, wood	6 00
Richard McCarty, labor	1 25
F. Swarman, supplies	3 65
W. T. O'Neil, labor	4 33
W. H. Thorne, teams	11 50
Total	$347 35
Grant	$500 00
Expended	347 35
Unexpended balance	$152 65

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. Whiting,

Clerk of Engineers of Millis, Mass.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

THE library has proved its usefulness to the town by the use the town has made of it. The number of books therein is a little over 2500. During the year 4752 books have been taken out, an average of 396 per month. This means that on an average each inhabitant has read five books during the year.

The trustees have added but few books this year,—about twenty in all. Something like thirty-five volumes of magazines have been bound, and ninety-two library books have been re-bound.

From the list of magazines Popular Science Monthly and Forum have been dropped, and the Review of Reviews and St. Nicholas substituted. In connection with the magazines we would like to remind the public that much of the best recent fiction can be found therein. Having so little money to spend for books, it does not seem best to buy in separate volumes that which the library already has in the magazines. By taking out two volumes of the magazine you get the story in full. A list of such stories will be found on the library table.

During the year Mr. John M. Crane, who has rendered valuable service to the library since its establishment, resigned from the board of trustees, and H. H. Thorne was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The trustees hope the town will be as generous as possible in their appropriation for the library this year.

Respectfully submitted by

A. H. Wheelock,
Louis LaCroix,
H. H. Thorne,
Trustees of the Millis Public Library.

Financial Statement of Public Library Trustees.

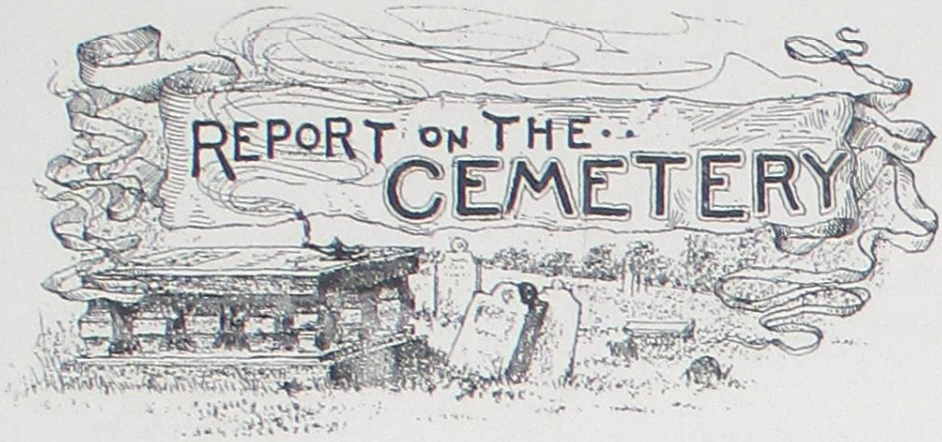
RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1895	$ 42 43	
Town appropriation	50 00	
Refunded dog tax	125 47	
Fines and sale of catalogues	19 25	
		$237 15

EXPENDITURES.

Henry D. Noyes & Co., magazines 1895-6	$ 34 00	
W. P. Clark, insurance	6 87	
Betsey C. Thorne, librarian	50 00	
Betsey C. Thorne, kerosene and expenses	5 06	
C. G. Brackett, cards	4 00	
Estes & Lauriat, books, 3 bills 1895-96	45 23	
A. H. Wheelock, magazines	5 50	
H. H. Thorne, repairs and supplies	1 40	
Grange Hall Association, lamps	10 00	
A. H. H. Warren & Co., binding	47 41	
H. D. Noyes & Co., magazines 1897	22 65	
Balance in hands of treasurer	5 03	
		$237 15

Louis LaCroix,
Treasurer of Trustees.



Town grant		$30 00
Paid for care :—		
May 27, Frank J. Finlay, 2 days and 2 hours	$3 33	
May 27, H. E. Hosmer, 3 days	5 75	
Sept. 10, Richard McGrath, 3 days and 7 hours	5 66	
Sept. 10, H. E. Hosmer	6 87	
	$21 61	
Amount unexpended	8 39	
	$30 00	$30 00
Cash on hand, received for lots :—		
From Mrs. Penniman for Lot No. 203	$3 00	
" Estate of J. H. Haines, ½ Lot No. 189	5 00	
" C. S. Williams, ½ Lot No. 189	5 00	
		$13 00

H. E. Hosmer,
For the Commissioners.

COLLECTORS' REPORTS.

1894-95.

DR.

To balance, Feb. 1, 1896	$3,437 15	
Interest and additional taxes	31 12	
		$3,468 27

CR.

By amount paid treasurer	$2,509 77	
Abatements, 1894 and 1895	958 50	
		$3,468 27

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE C. THRASHER,
Collector.

Millis, Feb. 6, 1897.

1896-97.

DR.

To warrant	$12,617 68	
Interest collected	18 22	
		$12,635 90

CR.

By amount paid Treasurer	$12,436 59	
Abatements, 1896	199 36	
		$12,635 90

Respectfully submitted,

J. CLARENCE THORNE,
Collector.

Millis, Feb. 6, 1897.

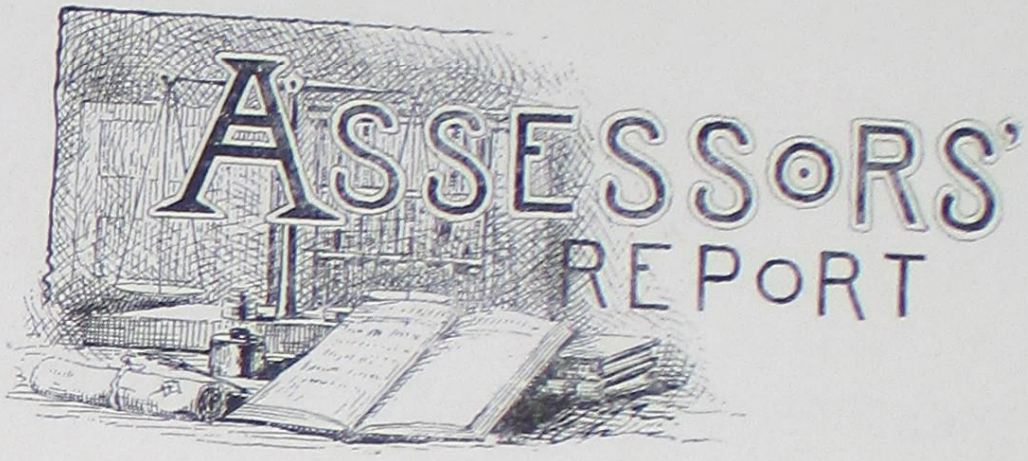
TREASURER'S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

THE following amounts have been received after the treasurer's report was sent to the printer:—

Interest on deposit in American Loan and Trust Co. . .	$ 9 08
J. C. Thorne, balance of taxes for 1896	565 06
G. C. Thrasher, balance of taxes for 1893, 1894 and 1895 . .	705 54
	$1,279 68

CHARLES G. BRACKETT,
Treasurer.

Millis, Feb. 8, 1897.



IN view of the unprecedented depreciation of real estate, as exemplified by the numerous sales that have taken place during the past year in the town, the assessors feel that perhaps it might be in order for them to forget to make any report; still, as the old maxim with regard to taxes is admitted by us all to be true, we must pick our flint and try again.

We made a reduction in the valuation from last year of about $60,000, which, with a loss of about $20,000 in taxable property, has reduced the valuation from $800,000 to about $730,000. Considering these facts, and in view of the general depression in business, and the impending prospect of large addition to both state and county tax, the board would recommend that, as far as may be consistent with the absolute needs of the town, the strictest economy in the matter of appropriations be used.

We have endeavored to the best of our ability, in the year past, to grind with as exact and even justice as do the mills of the gods, and deprecating our short-comings in many things, we trust our successors may do much better.

J. M. CRANE,
For the Board.

REPORT OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS.

To the Citizens of the Town of Millis:—

WE report the following:—

It was voted at the annual town meeting to withdraw $650 from the surplus in the Medway Savings Bank to provide for the sinking fund. This was done.

Mr. J. S. Adams was retained as engineer at the pumping station at the same salary as last year.

Upon investigating we found it advisable to paint the stand-pipe inside and out. The work was done by Lowell Babcock's Son, his being the lowest bid, viz: $168 for two coats of lead and oil for outside, and two coats of asphaltum varnish inside. This puts the stand-pipe in perfect condition for at least several years.

We found upon investigation that the boiler at the pumping station had never been inspected as required by law, and unless the boiler was insured it would have to be inspected two or three times a year by the state inspector at the expense of the town. We decided therefore to insure it, and made application to the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co. for a policy of $5000, to cover damage by explosion to both plant and engineer, thus relieving the town of any liability whatever.

An opportunity being offered to purchase a supply of coal at less than the current price, it was taken advantage of, and enough was purchased to last until May 1.

The town was unfortunate in losing the services of Dr. C. W. Emerson, he resigning the position of commissioner in April. In accordance with the law, the remaining commis-

sioners, with the selectmen, appointed Wesley W. Whiting to fill the vacancy, and he was also appointed water register.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS HARDING,
J. S. ADAMS,
W. W. WHITING,
Water Commissioners.

Millis, Feb. 1, 1897.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

WESLEY W. WHITING, WATER REGISTER, in account with Town of Millis Water Department for the year ending Jan. 31, 1897.

DR.

Balance Jan. 31, 1896	$1,774 90
Water rent first quarter	355 00
" second quarter	275 87
" third quarter	255 50
" fourth quarter	275 60
Sale of ladder	5 00
Interest on deposit	40 40
	$2,982 27

CR.

J. S. Adams, salary	$546 00
J. S. Adams, extra labor	25 00
O. T. Dean, salary	13 43
Deane Steam Pump Co., supplies	19 12
John S. Folsom, supplies	6 90
J. C. Thorne, coal	296 90
M. F. Campbell, shovel	75
M. Splain, labor	10 50
C. G. Brackett, printing	1 95
Hosmer, Codding & Co., supplies	3 98
Edward LaCroix, labor and supplies	77 15
C. F. Hood, labor	5 90
H. H. Thorne, express	75
Amount carried forward.	$1,008 33

Amount brought forward,	$1,008 33
W. S. Mitchell, lumber	3 57
Office expenses	6 09
W. H. Thorne, teams	6 00
L. Babcock's Son, painting	178 20
W. W. Whiting, salary	50 00
Boston Woven Hose Co., supplies	1 00
John Robbins Mfg. Co.,	2 15
Sarah Herrick, rebate	1 00
C. L. Hazelton, supplies	50
R. W. Pratt, supplies	16 61
Adams express	18
Sinking fund	650 00
George N. Lavender, supplies	17 00
W. W. Whiting, extra labor	10 00
Total expenditures	$1,950 63

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts	$2,982 27
Expenditures	1,950 63
Balance	$1,031 64
In Medway Savings Bank	$165 40
In Millis Savings Bank	659 61
Cash on hand	206 63
	$1,031 64

REPORT OF

THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the Citizens of the Town of Millis:—

WE regret to report that the expenditures have exceeded the income by $19.69. There are three causes for this, either one more than making up the deficit: The additional expense made necessary by the fire. The cost of fitting up the new schoolroom with desks, books, etc., was $120, and the amount which the school committee had as insurance to replace that which was lost was $75. A bill for wood and kindlings for 1894 and 1895 which had not been planned for, it being given to the committee for approval just before the year closed; and the schools have been in session one week longer than usual.

It was thought best to have one week vacation between the fall and winter terms and two weeks vacation between the winter and spring terms. In previous years it has been the reverse.

At the commencement of school in September there was an unusually large number of scholars in the North District, and the centre schools being crowded it was deemed best to discontinue transportation and open Daniell school. Miss Grace E. Soule of Whitman was elected teacher, and has thus far been successful in her work.

Fire which was without doubt incendiary in origin totally destroyed the school building and contents with little exception, on Dec. 14. One thousand dollars ($1000) has been received by the Town Treasurer as insurance on the building, and the insurance of $75 on the personal property has been spent in purchasing new furniture and supplies.

A suitable room was found in a building owned by Mr. J. M. Crane, and the town is paying $2 per week rent for the same. It has been said that the building now in use was originally the old "neck" schoolhouse.

Supervision.

At the close of the spring term the school union consisting of Medway, Holliston, and Millis was dissolved by the votes of Medway and Holliston, therefore one of the most important duties to come before your committee was the election of a superintendent.

Mr. D. Henry Whipple was secured as principal of Adams school and was also engaged as superintendent of schools for an additional salary of $75 per year. He has given perfect satisfaction, and the schools of Millis have attained under his supervision a degree of excellence never before experienced. The advantages of having a superintendent of schools who is a resident of the town over that of the district system are many; as he naturally has a more complete knowledge of both teachers and pupils, and also has a stronger feeling of sympathy and co-operation on the part of the parents.

Advanced Work.

The most important change that has happened to the schools of Millis for the last year was the adoption of a two years' advanced work in the grammar school, taking the place of the first two years in the high school. Instead of paying about $360 for tuition to the town of Medway for scholars attending the first two years in the high school, we now have that sum for the services of an assistant teacher, and for necessary books and supplies.

Even if this new method should cost the town more money than the sum of tuition, it would be well worth the extra expense, for the reason that it gives our school children better educational facilities. Seventy-five per cent of the pupils have in the past completed their education with the grammar

school or the first year in the high school, and by now having an advanced course with an award of a diploma at its completion, an inducement will be offered for all to remain and graduate, and to those who wish to continue their studies in the Medway high school, the course is so arranged that they can take the work of the third year class without losing any time.

Teachers.

Miss I. R. Mills, who has rendered the town five years of efficient and faithful service, resigned in November, and her place has been creditably filled by Miss Minna Morse of Medway.

Miss Susie O. Newhouse was engaged as teacher of the Grange school, commencing her work in September. With one so well known any comment is unnecessary.

The Adams intermediate school has been unfortunate in having numerous teachers, four in number.

Since September it has been under the care of Miss L. W. Kane of Groton, who is filling the position successfully.

Miss Annie H. Bradford of North Abington was chosen assistant of the grammar school in September, and has certainly captured the hearts of all her scholars.

Condition of School Building.

It is important to call the attention of the town once more to the furniture of Ellice school. It is unsuitable, ungainly, and much worn, and should be replaced by new.

It is a fact which is shown in the superintendent's report that the town will need larger accommodations for the centre schools next year, and for that reason your committee would recommend the thorough repairing and painting of Adams schoolhouse, with the addition of a three-story tower twenty feet square on the south-west corner. Exact estimates have not been made, but we believe ths changes and repairs can be done for about $3000. Then we should have a good four-room

school building, which would accommodate all the scholars from the North District as well as in the Centre, and would result in a saving of about $275 per year, now paid for rent and fuel.

We deemed it our duty to bring this matter before the town in some way, and would recommend that a committee be appointed to make plans, get estimates, and report at an adjourned town meeting.

Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS FOR SCHOOLS.

Annual grant	$3000 00	
For superintendent	75 00	
Amount from state school fund	308 38	
Amount from state for Superintendent	187 50	
Amount from sale of books and supplies	17 05	
Amount from sale of junk	1 00	
Amount from fire insurance on furniture and supplies	75 00	
Total avails		$3,663 93

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

Paid town of Medway for high school tuition		$246 75
Paid for teaching Adams high and grammar school:—		
D. Henry Whipple, winter term	$126 00	
H. A. Reed, spring term	143 00	
D. Henry Whipple, fall term	360 00	
Miss Annie H. Bradford, assistant	125 00	
Total		$754 00
Paid for teaching the Adams Intermediate school:—		
Miss Blanche W. Trufant	$ 63 00	
Miss Agnes D. Carney	16 00	
Miss H. G. Forest	72 00	
Miss Lilian W. Kane	157 00	
Total		$308 00

Paid for teaching the Grange Hall primary school:—		
Miss A. M. G. Newman	$151 00	
Miss Susie O. Newhouse	190 00	
Total		$341 00
Paid for teaching the Ellice school:—		
Miss I. Rubelle Mills	$290 00	
Miss Minna Morse	64 00	
Total		$354 00
Paid for teaching the Daniell school:—		
Miss Grace E. Soule		$119 00
Paid for transportation:—		
W. H. Thorne to Medway high school	$45 50	
W. H. Thorne from Daniell school	105 00	
Total		$150 50
Paid for care of schoolhouses:—		
S. H. Frink, Adams and Grange Hall	$162 00	
H. H. Thorne, Grange Hall	7 50	
George Cassidy, Daniell	10 00	
Miss I. R. Mills, Ellice	24 50	
Miss Minna Morse, Ellice	3 00	
Total		$207 00
Paid for fuel:—		
J. C. Thorne, coal	$233 00	
E. F. Richardson, wood	9 50	
Jacob Smith, wood	3 00	
Edmund N. Clark, wood	8 00	
S. H. Frink, sawing and housing	6 00	
G. C. Thrasher, wood, 1894 and 1895	36 50	
Total		$296 00
Paid for books and supplies:—		
J. L. Hammett Co.	$86 47	
Jordan, Marsh & Co.	25 25	
D. H. Whipple	1 25	
Thompson, Brown & Co.	15 36	
Boston School Supply Co.	35 44	
Joseph C. Godfrey	20 06	
Ginn & Co.	75 29	
University Publishing Co.	1 35	
Silver, Burdett & Co.	3 20	
Total		$263 67

Paid for incidentals :—		
E. LaCroix, labor and stock	$ 26 55	
E. F. Lovell, labor and stock	15 90	
W. W. Whiting, labor and stock	57 30	
Richard Seidenberg, cleaning	6 00	
S. H. Frink, labor and cleaning	15 75	
F. E. Cook, labor	8 85	
E. F. Richardson, labor and expense	21 20	
H. H. Thorne, express	8 22	
A. J. Babcock, labor and stock	3 00	
J. S. Folsom	6 66	
Chandler Adjustable Desk Co.	65 13	
Henry E. Hosmer, labor	2 25	
G. M. Billings, printing	10 00	
George Bullen, cleaning clock	1 00	
D. H. Whipple	4 50	
C. S. Williams	1 25	
W. P. Clark, insurance	7 19	
Mrs. James Spellman	1 00	
John Richardson	2 50	
Grange Hall Association, rent	125 00	
W. H. Thorne, express	2 15	
W. H. Thorne, truant officer	3 50	
E. L. Richardson, labor and expense	3 55	
John M. Crane, rent	10 00	
Total		$406 45
Paid for salaries :—		
F. C. Tenney, superintendent	$131 25	
D. Henry Whipple, superintendent	25 00	
E. F. Richardson	20 00	
E. F. Richardson, book agent	15 00	
Frank E. Cook	20 00	
Frank E. Cook, secretary	6 00	
E. L. Richardson	20 00	
Total		$237 25

SUMMARY.

Amount for teaching	$1,876 00
Medway high school	246 75
Transportation	150 50
Amount carried forward,	$2,273 25

Amount brought forward,	$2,273 25	
Fuel	296 00	
Care of houses	207 00	
Books and supplies	263 67	
Incidentals	406 45	
Supervision	237 25	
Total		$3,683 62
Total expense	$3,683 62	
Total avails	3,663 93	
Deficit		$19 69

Your committee would recommend an appropriation of $3300, as it is our opinion that this is the least sum for which the schools can be maintained at their present standard of excellence during the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. Richardson, Chairman,
Frank E. Cook, Secretary,
E. L. Richardson,
School Committee.

Millis, Feb. 1, 1897.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the School Committee of Millis.

GENTLEMEN:—

IN submitting a report at this time, when the schools of Millis have been under my supervision but a part of the year, there is so much that is incomplete, that it is well, perhaps, to leave the estimate of results until a later period, when plans shall have become experiences. On that basis then, this report will not attempt to show a comparison of standing, year for year, along all lines of work, but will suggest, rather, the present efforts for advancing the interests of this most important department of the town.

SUPERINTENDENCE.

For five years, Millis has had the advantage of professional supervision, being associated with Holliston and Medway in a union district; during that time many changes have been made to improve the character of the schools, and today results are not only possible, but actually obtained, that could not be under former conditions, for with the more complete organization and careful grading have come increased directness of effort and consequent efficiency.

One particular result of this may be seen in the matter of promotion; instead of advancing a pupil at the end of the year, simply because he has spent that amount of time in a class,—regardless of his accomplishment,—he is now expected to show reason why he should be considered qualified for advancement; in other words, promotion is based upon the actual results of his response to the teacher's endeavor; in this way all are measured from a common standpoint—not so low as to be ob-

tained without effort, not so high as to be beyond the reach of average ability.

Thus has a definite standard been assumed; thus may it be maintained, and hence even advanced, for the scholar, like the artisan, measures his effort by the requirement.

Since the separation from the union district, the office and responsibilities of the superintendent have been combined with the duties of the principal of the Adams High-Grammar school. That it may be understood to what extent such practice prevails in Massachusetts, I will state that in the following-named towns teaching and supervision are united*:—

Concord,	Northbridge,	Uxbridge,
Fairhaven,	Norwood,	Webster,
Franklin,	Palmer,	Wellesley,
Lexington,	Stockbridge,	Westboro,
Maynard,	Sudbury,	Whitman,
Millis,	Swampscott,	Winthrop.

Devoting but a part of the time to the *general* interests of the school department, it has taken longer to become definitely acquainted with the character and the needs of the schools than would otherwise have been the case, but it has been my purpose to come as fully as possible to an understanding of our real position, before suggesting any changes in course or methods.

To carry out this idea, between thirty and forty visits have been made to the schools while in session, since the beginning of the school year in September; aside from this many "calls" have been made at the schoolrooms outside of the regular school periods, as well as during them, that are not included as "visits"; talks have been held with the schools as well as with the teachers; the process of study, as well as of recitation, noted; revision of monthly reports made, to gain more definite evidence from statistics; and regular teachers' meetings established, occurring at the close of the work on Friday afternoon following the first Monday of each month.

*Report of New England Association of School Superintendents.

The Course of Study.*

Our particular situation calls for special plans to meet the needs, and hence it has been the purpose of the superintendent to revise the course of study to best promote those interests; needed time has been spent on this work; reports of the State Board of Education have been consulted; the courses offered in towns representing conditions similar to our own, as well as those of places recognized as educationally prominent, have been carefully examined, and various authorities and educators referred to; as a result, the outline submitted is believed to embody as much of the essentials of the approved ideas of the modern course, as our conditions will warrant adopting. It must be kept in mind that we are not planning for model schools or ideal situations, but on the contrary for the success of conditions now existing in form admitting of improvement and development, so that we may find ourselves none the worse off, by comparison with others of our class.

The change in regard to the purpose of the town to furnish two years' work on a high school basis has brought its own problem as to how much that should cover, and how far therein we could go; the conclusion arrived at has been reached on the ground that we should make that course prove of "the greatest good to the greatest number."

In order to have that idea carried out, it is necessary to plan for it in the lower grades, and hence specially lead up to the advanced work in such a manner as to there get the maximum of result for the minimum of time. This year it is impossible to conform absolutely to the course arranged, owing to the lack of preparation for it, but as much is being done as is consistent with thorough work.

Physics.

In this subject of our High School department, the work is being taken experimentally, the pupils performing, or noting, the experiment, observing results, and then drawing their in-

*To be published in full in the separate report of the School Department.

ference as to cause. Much of the apparatus thus far used has been provided by the members of the class, the pupils having made several pieces of a creditable workmanship; the appreciation of their efforts to further advance the value of the class work without expense to the town, is hereby acknowledged.

Grammar Department.

While each subject may not be discussed in detail, it will be timely to comment upon the proposed changes in the course of the Grammar Department. for there comes one of the marked differences between the old and the new order.

As now arranged, Geography and U. S. History will be completed in the eighth grade, thus admitting English History and Bookkeeping (single entry) to the ninth year. Elementary Algebra will be a part of the course in mathematics, while preparatory work in Physics will be the essential line in Nature Study, thus economizing time for the first year of High School work, where these last-named subjects will be treated in more scientific detail.

It is purposed to have a definite amount accomplished each year in "nature work," the course being adapted from that recommended in the fifty-eighth annual report of the Board of Education.

Reading.

Attention has been drawn in previous reports to the importance of the work in this subject; but emphasis will not be amiss, for as reading is the fundamental process by which we gain the recorded thoughts of others, it holds a position in the course of our education that nothing else can.

The work of the past five years has prepared us for another possible step, and it is suggested that American literature be now treated in elementary, but systematic, form, by assigning an author to a grade, as a unit of supplementary reading, beginning with the fourth year. Thus will author and works become more closely associated, and a positive knowledge of such

more generally assured at a period when the mind is as susceptible to wholesome influences as to the unprofitable.

Arithmetic.

The introduction of the Prince Series was effected at the beginning of the year, and thus far seems to fill the requirements for practical problems and the demand for thought, without resorting to arithmetical conundrums.

Vertical Penmanship.

This system, adopted in Millis at a time when it was the subject of not a little adverse criticism by conservative educators, has proven all that was claimed for it; and it may be of interest to note that we hold a position in the pioneer ranks of the state concerning a method that is now commonly admitted to possess the essentials of a satisfactory penmanship, and which is today receiving that truest endorsement of merit,—namely, general use.

Teachers.

During this year there have been repeated changes in our corps of teachers, and the effect of such condition is generally apparent, as there is always a certain loss of work in getting the proper relations established between teacher and pupils, no matter how successfully that work may be conducted, subsequently.

It may be well to call to mind the fact that the pupils of the High-Grammar School have been called upon to adapt themselves to the methods of three different teachers; the members of the Adams Intermediate to four; those in the Grange Primary to three; the scholars of the Ellice School to two; and the pupils of the Daniell School have to add one more to the number accredited the schools from which they were transferred.

To those who have the interests and welfare of the schools at heart, it is always a matter of keen regret to lose a good

teacher,—and much is embodied in the meaning of the word "good" as here used,—but it is an undeniable fact that the smaller and poorer towns are subject to the recruiting visits of school authorities from those places where the salaries paid are so much the greater, that resignations seem to follow as natural consequences.

It is to be hoped that the measure now agitated in certain circles for the promotion of partial support of the public schools by the state will be successfully carried through, for thereby will the class of towns above referred to—ourself among the number—be specially aided in maintaining longer periods of service among our teachers.

It is with due appreciation of all honest effort—past and present—that any comparison of the condition of our schools today and formerly is withheld, aside from the fact that it would be quite untimely; on the other hand, the earnestness, fidelity, and conscientious attention to, and appreciation of, the duties of the school, as shown by our present teachers, is worthy of commendation, and the superintendent hereby expresses his recognition of the efficiency of their labors, and would also acknowledge the support tendered him in promoting the best interests of those in their mutual care.

Attendance.

With the previously mentioned facts concerning the changes of teachers in mind, it may be considered creditable that the per cent of attendance for the year (89.21) is in advance of last year, (88.65,) though the slight gain is readily accounted for in the Daniell school district, from which the pupils were transported to the central schools.

Special effort has been made on the part of the teachers to maintain the greatest possible degree of regularity and punctuality in attendance, but at times it has seemed as though their endeavor had not been supplemented in the home, where much in this direction is possible.

Too much emphasis can not be laid upon the need of regularity in attendance, for by the lack of it is not only the interest of the individual—the absentee—threatened, but the welfare of the class is more or less concerned.

It is also urged that the request for dismissal before the close of the session be withheld as far in as possible, thus giving the pupil the benefit of the day's entire work.

It can hardly be considered an unjust criticism to say that the close relation between the school and the home is but partially understood, if we are to judge by the expressions—alas, the lack of expression, too generally—that impress themselves upon us.

We feel the need of again reminding the parents of the union of obligation and privilege in the matter of visiting the schools; in looking through the record of visits made since the schools began in September, it becomes noticeable that aside from members of the School Committee not one parent has visited the school while in session at either the Adams High-Grammar or the Ellice; three such visits have been made at the Adams Intermediate; while four are recorded at the Daniell school; no criticism can be made concerning the attention granted the Grange school, where visits have been quite frequent. We feel there would be mutual advantage to parent and pupil if greater interest could be manifested in this particular, throughout the town.

Statement and Recommendation.

It will not be amiss to present a few figures from the advance sheets of the sixtieth report of the State Board of Education, that a comparison of our position with the average of the state may be appreciated:—

Percentage of attendance: State, 92; Millis, 89.21; Cost of schools per pupil, based on average membership: State, $24.73; Millis, $17.183; Average salary per month in state: Men, $136.03; women, $50.30.

91 per cent of the schools and 93.8 per cent of the pupils

of the state are under superintendents. Fifty-one rural schools have been consolidated with central schools this year, the children being transported thereto; $91,136.11 was spent for transportation, an increase of $14,527.82, thus showing the general practice and extension of this system.

Owing to the overcrowded condition of our central schools at the beginning of the fall term, it became necessary to re-open the Daniell school, thus abolishing transportation, contrary to the conviction that on general principles better results could be obtained in the central schools than in the rural district. It is a fact well worth comment that while last year the per cent of attendance for the Daniell school was 79, the same pupils, under the transportation system, maintained the average of 89.38 in the Grange Primary and 93.39 in the Adams Intermediate schools, an argument that needs no comment. The burning of the schoolhouse in that part of the town and demands for increased accommodation in the central schools, bring before us a question that cannot well be postponed:—

How shall we care for our pupils next September?

The present membership in the Adams High Grammar is forty-four; two pupils may be graduated in June, leaving forty-two, to be increased by a possible fifteen by promotion, making the demand for fifty-seven seats, which is beyond our present capacity; carrying the claim still farther, we find that should all graduate from the High School next year, twelve would go out, while sixteen would be candidates for admission, a net gain of four, with a demand for sixty-one seats. (Our prominent educators consider forty-five a fair maximum for a room.)

With the Grange school similar conditions will exist, judging from a canvass for pupils who will be ready to enter school next fall; quite as many, if not nrore, pupils will enter as will pass on to the Intermediate school at the Adams building, and more scholars will be demanding attention in the Daniell school district than our present seating arrangements will provide for.

Continuing the existing contracts, we shall spend $200 a year for rental, aside from other costs of maintaining schools inadequate for our needs.

I would therefore recommend that definite steps be taken at once to meet these conditions, and thus arrange to avoid an interruption of our work next fall, as well as to embrace an ultimate economy.

To outline a plan, it may become apparent that such change as the addition of a tower to include entrance halls and stairways, could be made for a nominal sum; the present anterooms and halls could then be thrown together by the removal of the partition, and two good-sized schoolrooms be thus provided that would accommodate the pupils of both the Grange and Daniell Schools, and admit of such readjustment as would be necessary to relieve the crowded condition of the High-Grammar department; with the development and extension of our system, there must necessarily be provision made to conduct the work in a profitable manner, and as the claims are all based upon existing conditions, the force of them will become all the more apparent when the possibility of increase in membership is taken into account, as would be the case, doubtless, should the business interests of the town assume a different aspect.

In closing this report, it is a pleasure to acknowledge the courtesy and earnest support of the committee to the measures advanced in behalf of the schools of the town; without this united endeavor and interest, the most zealous effort would fall short of its purpose, and the responsibility of lessening the advantages of the pupils would indeed be a serious one.

Most respectfully submitted,

D. H. Whipple,

Superintendent.

Millis, Feb. 1, 1897.

APPENDIX.

Adams School.

Enrolment.		Present Membership.
16 pupils.	High Department.	13 pupils.
16 pupils.	Grammar Department.	31 pupils.

D. H. Whipple, *Principal.*

Annie Henzey Bradford, *Assistant.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

Year.—George B. Holland, Herbert F. Hood, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, Alva L. Richardson, Fred B. Roach.

Winter Term.—Carroll A. Farwell, Fred W. Young.

Spring Term.—Emma F. Cook, Ruby M. Finlay.

Fall Term.—Edith E. Andrews, Edith L. Clark, Alice C. Shea, Charles P. Dinneen, Harry F. Holbrook, Fred W. Young.

Enrolment.		Present Membership.
44 pupils.	Intermediate Department.	35 pupils.

Lillian Wood Kane, *Teacher.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

Winter Term.—Edith E. Andrews, Grace Clark, Florence Frink, Carrie F. Howe, Alice McMahan, Charles H. Brackett, George Cassidy, Frank Hoff, Frank McDonough, Edward Seidenberg, Richard Seidenberg, Ernest Snow.

Spring Term.—Florence Frink, Carrie F. Howe, Charles P. Dinneen, Harry F. Holbrook, James McDonough.

Grange School.

Enrolment.		Present Membership.
64 pupils.	Primary Department.	38 pupils.

Susie O. Newhouse, *Teacher.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

Spring Term.—Frank Hoff.
Fall Term.—John H. Olsen.

Ellice School.

Enrolment.		Present Membership.
31 pupils.	Intermediate and Primary Depts.	28 pupils.

Minna A. Morse, *Teacher.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

Winter Term.—Cyrus Sawyer.
Spring Term.—Cyrus Sawyer.
Fall Term.—Eddie Simmons.

Daniell School.

Intermediate and Primary Departments.

Grace E. Soule, *Teacher.*

Total membership of 19 pupils transferred from the Grange and Adams Intermediate Schools, Sept. 21, 1896, included in enrolment of those schools.

Present membership, 16 pupils.

Total Enrolment, 171 pupils.

Present membership:—

Ages 5—8:	57	pupils.
" 9—14:	95	"
" 15— :	9	"
Total,	161	"

TABLE OF ATTENDANCE.

School.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Per cent of Attendance.
Adams High-Grammar . .	33.15	30.09	90.77
Adams Intermediate . . .	34.64	32.35	93.39
Grange Primary . . .	40.68	36.38	89.38
Ellice Intermediate-Primary .	25.74	22.13	82.09
Daniell " " (4 mos.)	16.76	15.15	90.42

General average for town, 89.21

School Calendar.

Fall Term.* Sept. 8, 1896—Dec. 18.

Winter Term. Dec. 28—March 19, 1897.

Spring Term. April 5—June 11, Intermediate and Primary. April 5—June 18, High-Grammar.

Fall Term begins Tuesday, Sept. 7, 1897.

School Year: 36 weeks Intermediate-Primary; 38 weeks, High-Grammar.

*Intermediate and Primary schools, 1 week recess at Thanksgiving.

CONTENTS.

Assessors, Report of the 44
Cemetery, Report on the 41
Collector, Report of the 42
Fire Engineers, Report of the 36
Jurors, List of 32
Overseers of the Poor, Report of 33
Public Library, Report of the Trustees of 39
School Committee, Report of the 48
Selectmen, Report of the 25
Town Meetings, Records of the 5
Town Officers, List of the 3
Treasurer, Report of the 22
Treasurer, Supplementary Report of the 43
Vital Statistics 20
Water Commissioners, Report of the 45